

Puppies galore



Stray pups look for good homes

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Fort Riley Post

Another round

Captain resumes boxing at Fort Riley

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Thursday, May 3, 2007

Home of the Big Red One

Vol. 50, No. 18

Post, Army news briefly

Post-wide yard sale set

Fort Riley's post wide yard sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 5.

Speaking opportunity

The Public Affairs Community Relations office is seeking a speaker who has served in Iraq or Afghanistan to speak to eighth-grade students May 14, 15 or 16 in Salina, Kan. Salina is approximately 55 miles from Fort Riley. The speaker will talk about what it's like in Iraq or Afghanistan and how lucky we are to live in the U.S. for approximately 45 minutes with four iterations. For more information, please call the CR office at 239-3358 before May 9.

Birthday Ball registration open

Registration for the Army Birthday Ball celebrating the U.S. Army's 232nd Birthday opened April 12. The ball will be held June 16 at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington D.C. Please join us for an elegant evening of dining, dancing and entertainment. All Army Soldiers, Family members, Department of the Army civilians, retirees and veterans are welcome to attend. Formal attire is required.

Visit the U.S. Army homepage at <http://www.army.mil/birthday/232/default.htm> for more information and links to online registration. Tickets are limited.

OCSC sets May luncheon

The Officer and Enlisted Spouses Club will hold its May luncheon "Trash to Treasure Bingo" at 11:30 a.m. May 17 at the Junction City Country Club.

For example, your mismatched piece of Polish pottery may be trash to you but treasure to another. You must bring at least one item to take home an item.

For lunch, choose between blackened chicken salad or a chicken salad croissant. Cost is \$15 per person.

Please RSVP by May 9 to reservations@fortrileyocsc.com.

Stay 'In Step' with Fort Riley

See what's happening at Fort Riley. Tune in to Fort Riley cable channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. or watch "In Step with Fort Riley" at 5 a.m. every Saturday and at 11 a.m. most Saturdays on WBW TV Channel 13.

Stories planned for this week's show, which runs on WBW TV May 5 and on the post's cable channel 2 May 7 - May 13 are:

- News from Fort Riley units in Iraq
- An update on the latest Fort Riley casualties
- A visit to the Month of the Military Child festival
- Fort Riley awards ceremony

• Interview with Katie Dickson from DMWR about recreation opportunities.

Field battalion activates on post

By Anna Staatz
Staff writer

It took fewer than 30 minutes to complete a ceremony marking the activation of the Army Field Support Battalion April 27 at King Field House, but the impact the battalion will have on Fort Riley units is huge.

The battalion, part of the 407th Army Field Support Brigade

West, will ease the transition into and out of deployments for units stationed at Fort Riley by maintaining and managing equipment that deploying units do not take to Iraq.

"When they come back, the equipment is ready to roll," said Lt. Col. Shannon Pool, battalion commander.

Pool said the unit will support the Fort Riley area, including

Army Reserve and National Guard units, and most importantly, the 1st Infantry Division. The battalion also will assist with logistical power, projection of technical capabilities and coordination.

The battalion is unique in that it is made up of mostly civilian workers. Pool said there were about 580 workers who had been working on post for eight to nine

months. The battalion will be considered full strength when it reaches a total of 650 personnel. Pool said there only would be eight to 12 Soldiers in the battalion when it reached full strength. An Army battalion comprised of civilians doesn't happen often, but Pool said it will provide continuity, since the workers wouldn't be receiving deployment orders, and hiring civilian workers helped the

surrounding communities.

"It's kind of a change in thought process in how you deal with individuals, but we haven't had any issues at all," Pool said. "It flows smoothly."

Dave Stronani, who is retired Army, is one of the contract workers in the new battalion.

"This is very different from ordinary Army units," he said.

See Activation, Page 8

Role play

Actors lend realism to TT training

Gary Skidmore
1st Brigade

Edisha Coleman is eighteen and barely out of high school. She spends her days hanging out at the marketplace, along with dozens of others, hoping to catch the eye of an unsuspecting Soldier.

"So far no one has stopped," remarked Coleman, "but that's okay, it just means they're doing their job."

Coleman and the more than 20 others at the marketplace are actors, hired to play the role of Iraqi and Afghan citizens. If she and the others do their jobs well, they have helped train the Soldiers preparing for deployment, possibly even saving their lives.

"I think it's working out great," Coleman said. "We're learning new cultures and at the same time the more we act like Iraqis the more the Soldiers training to go will be comfortable with their deployment."

"We're here everyday, Monday through Friday," said Henry Wilson, role player manager. "We've set up this marketplace area right outside the forward operating base and wave at the Soldiers as they drive or road march by."

Wilson said when the Soldiers pass, the role players approach them in an attempt to sell them their wares or get information from them, any tidbit that might put their lives in jeopardy when they pass back by.

"You'll hear them ask, 'hey Soldier, when you coming back by, I'll have tea ready for you,' in their attempt to gain information," Wilson said, "but usually they stay focused and keep moving."

Although Wilson's role players don't plant IEDs because of the danger of explosives, the role players do approach the com-

See Role players, Page 7



Edisha Coleman, a contract role player, watches a convoy roll by during transition team training at Camp Funston. Coleman and the more than 20 others at the marketplace are actors, hired to play the role of Iraqi and Afghan citizens.

4th IBCT Soldiers remembered at memorial ceremony

By Anna Staatz
Staff writer



A memorial stands at the front of Morris Hill Chapel April 25 during a memorial ceremony in honor of Sps. Jason Morales and Sps. Christopher North, two 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Soldiers killed in Iraq.

Post/Staff: 25 during a memorial ceremony in honor of Sps. Jason Morales and Sps. Christopher North, two 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Soldiers killed in Iraq.

sion, Morales was remembered for his smile and love of Los Angeles.

"He's the kind of person who no matter how bad a day was, he would just keep going and going and going," said Sgt. Eduardo Garza. "The guys in the company would just laugh and shake their heads."

Morales, of Los Angeles, Calif., enlisted in the Army on Nov. 3, 2005. He was assigned to the 1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt. on March 15, 2006. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terror Service Medal and the Army Service Ribbon.

North, 21, of Sarasota, Fla.,

and a member of the 1st Battalion, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 4th IBCT, 1st Inf. Div., was remembered for his love of motorcycles.

Pfc. Christopher Pankers met North during basic training at Fort Knox, Ky. Pankers said one time he and North were riding motorcycles together and he realized they were going far beyond the speed limit.

"Chris had a look on his face I will never forget," Pankers said.

Pankers also said North was always able to look at the bright side of things.

"I will always remember North for his laugh. He made the best of every situation...North had a smile that would light up the world," he said.

See Memorial, Page 8

Post, Army news briefly

\$5,000 reward offered by CID

The Fort Riley Criminal Investigation Division is investigating an alleged rape that occurred on Fort Riley in late January 2007. The perpetrator was described as a male, possibly Hispanic, approximately 5'10" tall, 175 pounds, wearing the Army winter physical training uniform and a gold ring with two diamonds on each side and a cross in the middle.

A \$5,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the alleged rape. If you have any information concerning the incident, call the Fort Riley military police at 239-MPMP (667) or CID at 239-3931.

This reward offer will expire April 13, 2008.

Law enforcement run scheduled

The Fort Riley police are selling long and short sleeve t-shirts to benefit the Kansas Law Enforcement Torch Run. All proceeds will go to the Kansas Special Olympics. Shirts are blue with "Kansas Law Enforcement Torch Run" printed in yellow lettering. Long-sleeve shirts are \$20 (M-XXL) and short-sleeve shirts are \$15 (M-XXL). To donate and receive a shirt, call the Fort Riley Civil Liaison office at 239-2226 or visit Building 221 on Main Post.

If you would like to participate in the Kansas Law Enforcement Torch Run on May 29, call Staff Sgt. Ryan McCarthy at 239-2226 to fill out a runner's waiver. Fort Riley runners will pick up the torch at the Ogden Gate from members of the Riley County Police Department and transfer it to the Junction City police at Grant Gate.

Post graduation to be held

The semi-annual combined college graduation ceremony will be held at 1 p.m. May 9 at Riley's Conference Center. All counseling services at Fort Riley Education Services Learning Centers, Buildings 7604 and 217, will be unavailable starting at 10:30 a.m. the morning of the ceremony.

Military personnel, Family members and civilian personnel graduating from local colleges are invited to participate in the post-wide graduation ceremony.

For more information on participation, call Adelina Morales at 239-6481.

IACH weapons policy explained

In accordance with Fort Riley Medical Department Activity Regulation 380-1, personnel performing law enforcement or security duties may carry firearms into and within all U.S. Army Medical Treatment facilities at Fort Riley.

Individuals requesting non-emergent medical or dental care will secure their weapons with their units prior to receiving treatment at any Fort Riley medical/dental facility.

COPELAND INSURANCE
1 x 3"
Black Only
1x3 Chad Mayes Ad

Aviation unit trains for Iraq at NTC

By Spc. Michael Howard
CAB PAO

NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER, FORT IRWIN, Calif.—The convoy team had one mission — to deliver a load of ammunition to a nearby forward operating base so aerial operations could continue.

Over the course of the convoy, however, the team saw their mission branch off into several more urgent tasks in which life and limb were at stake. After pushing through small arms fire, reacting to an improvised explosive device, conducting a medical evacuation and a vehicle recovery after being hit by an IED and negotiating with members of an Iraqi village, the team finally completed their mission.

The convoy employed obstacles and scenarios common to most convoy battle-drill exercises. However, it incorporated them one after another with a speed and sense of urgency.

Adding to the realism of training was the use of multi-integrated laser engagement system gear on both the Soldiers and the Iraqi civilians, making everyone "killable."

This was a dimension not usually found in these practice negotiations. The location of the training simulated the heat and sand found in the deserts of Iraq.

Small arms fire greeted the convoy just outside of the starting point, said 1st Sgt. Michael Beebe, first sergeant of Company

E, 1st Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment.

The convoy reacted by increasing their speed and establishing a floating rally point several hundred meters ahead, Beebe said. This is where the unit accounted for all personnel and property he added.

Almost immediately afterward, the convoy team sighted an IED lying exposed in the road.

Without hesitation the company set up traffic-control points for the safety of anyone else on the road, dispatched Explosive Ordnance Disposal Soldiers, and saw to it that the IED was safely disposed of.

Several hundred meters up the road, a simulated IED hit the convoy, damaging a truck and injuring three Soldiers.

The senior battalion medic, Staff Sgt. Douglas Saunders, responded immediately, organizing litter teams to carry the wounded, and tended to the wounded by performing immediate first aid.

Saunders started an intravenous drip on Chap. (Capt.) Jeff McKinney, the battalion chaplain. The team then medically evacuated the wounded Soldiers to the next echelon of care.

The Soldiers then assessed the damage to the vehicle and decided to tow it out of the way and continue the mission.

The Soldiers were next met by frantic Iraqi civilians who ran in front of the convoy trucks, stopping the procession.

Sweating Soldiers hopped from



CAB/Howard

Staff Sgt. Douglas Saunders, the 1st Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment senior medic, applies a bandage to one of Battalion Chaplain Capt. McKinney's simulated wounds during Company E, 1-1 Aviation's convoy battle-drill Thursday at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif.

their Humvees and began to try to communicate. Using graphics-depiction cards, laminated sheets of paper with pictures, and English to Arabic translations, the Soldiers tried to control tensions between the Soldiers and Iraqi citizens.

Finally, through translation the

Soldiers realized the citizens were trying to tell about a bomb in their village. The team disposed of the ordinance and moved on.

"We are the forward support company, we have the ground maintenance assets, we have the dining facility and the distribution platoon, the ammo and the fuel supply," Beebe said. "When we are deployed, we are the most likely asset in this aviation battalion to perform combat logistics patrol missions."

"This means that it is vital Company E, as well as the battalion as a whole, doesn't lose time in moving from the walk phase to the run phase in preparation for the deployment," Beebe said.

In the run phase, the convoy team will be able to react to any situation with the confidence of experience behind them, Beebe added.

"I think everybody got something out of this training today," said Sgt. Bianca Arizpe, an ammunition specialist with Co. E, 1st Bn., 1st Avn. Regt. "It was very well set up and all the Soldiers put great effort into what

had to be done. It does show that we're going to do very well. We're not perfect, we still need more training, but I truly believe we'll get it down before we go down range."

The best part of the training was being able to perfect it in California before the company gets to Iraq, where mistakes can trigger much greater consequences, Arizpe said.

"I believe the combat veterans put their experience to work. For those of us who have not been deployed, they were able to help us out as far as what goes on and how it should be done," Arizpe said.

"Seeing as I've never been deployed before, it put a lot of things into perspective as far as how fast things go and what to expect when we're down range," Arizpe said.

"This training went really well and was very realistic, and very similar to situations that we encountered when I was in Operation Iraqi Freedom II," Saunders said. "So, it's important that we have this training."



CAB/Howard

An Iraqi villager attempts to explain to the Soldiers of Company E, 1st Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, there is a bomb in the convoy's path during the company's convoy battle-drill.

HOUSE FILL AD

HOUSE FILL AD

CANDLEWOOD HEALTH MART PHARMAC
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2Candlewood Health1/03 t f

TRENDY'S CAFE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2.trendyscafe.4/12.6637.1k

KPA
2 x 2"
Black Only
martin buildings

QUIK PAY
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 QuikPay

CINEMA 12 / MANHATTAN, KS
1 x 4.5"
Black Only
1x4.5Cinema12/01new

TAB KWAN DO
2 x 4"
Black Only
2x4Tabkwando02/01 t f

WOMEN'S AGLOW LIGHTHOUSE
2 x 4"
Black Only
2x4.1feistream

Major reflects on changes at FOB Falcon

By Anna Staatz
Staff writer

It was April 17, 2003. Mohamed Sadiq Ja'far was walking with some friends in a market in downtown Baghdad when Capt. Nathan Swartz rolled through as part of the 101st Airborne Division.

In the peak days of the initial fall of Baghdad, Ja'far said everyone was excited to see the Americans. He made a decision that day that altered his life as he knew it. He went with Swartz to Forward Operating Base Falcon and worked as his interpreter for the next year.

Fast forward four years. Swartz is now a major, working as the support operations officer for the 610th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. He deployed with the brigade in early February and in an ironic twist, is back at FOB Falcon. Also working there, now on a more official basis for U.S. troops in theater, is Ja'far.

In a phone interview April 23, Swartz and Ja'far spoke about the base, how they met and how the war has changed in the past four years.

"When I met Max (Ja'far), I literally rolled up in downtown Baghdad in a market and just



Courtesy photo
Maj. Nathan Swartz, operations officer for the 610th BSB and interpreter, Mohamed Sadiq Ja'far are working together again at FOB Falcon. The pair first met when Swartz was in Baghdad four years ago.

starting speaking English fast, so I could figure out who could understand me, and that's how I found him," Swartz said. "I asked him to come back with me, told him that I'd pay him, and that's how I found my interpreter. At that time, there were no embedded inter-

preters, and it was a matter of survival to find somebody."

Swartz was one of the first American Soldiers to enter FOB Falcon before it became an operational base for troops. He noted it had grown a lot in four years. When he arrived four years ago,

the former industrial complex had a warehouse, a production building and several smaller buildings. Surrounded by a wall, the camp had been looted and stripped of everything but the floor and walls. "Since then it's grown," Swartz said. "I didn't recognize it when I

looked at it on a map, but I did when I flew in here."

For Ja'far, the past four years have held many things. When asked if he has ever been in danger because of his work with the Americans, he said "yes, many times."

Ja'far said sometimes he pretended that he was working with an engineer in another area to avoid confrontations with militants from various sects within Baghdad. Once, he said he was watched and followed by a group but was able to escape.

"I have a good security procedure when I leave from the Falcon camp," he said. "I can escape in a sneaky way."

Since the beginning of the war Ja'far has lost his home, where he lived most of his life, and several other properties. He said he was unable to return to his neighborhood because it was occupied by terrorists. Instead he has an apartment for his wife in a safer neighborhood on the other side of the Tigris River. In spite of the sacrifices, he said he supports what the U.S. came to Iraq to do.

"I believe in this, this Operation Iraqi Freedom," he said.

Ja'far said, through some laughter, he didn't recognize Swartz when he first saw him at FOB Falcon a few months ago because he looked older.

"He recognized me, because I had stayed in here," Ja'far said. Swartz was quick to hijack the phone.

For the record, Maj. Swartz is not sporting any gray hairs," he said.

Swartz said four years in Baghdad has changed the way the military moves.

"Back then, freedom of maneuver wasn't a problem and there wasn't a problem with security, because no one really had a desire to mess with coalition forces," he said. "The Shiites in the neighborhood had been repressed so long that us being there - they were just happy. Everywhere I went; it was like they thought we had just saved the world."

Swartz said while many of the Shiites in the neighborhoods where the 4th IBCT is located still want the presence of U.S. troops, moving has become a little trickier.

"As far as the outside goes, I think it's a lot of the same," he said. "There's a lot of bad guys here in our area. The difference is it's harder to maneuver around. The same guys that were here in southern Baghdad still like us...There's still good people here."

Ja'far said he has worked with numerous U.S. military units and plans to continue doing so.

CSM to be top NCO at 1st Army West

By Anna Staatz
Staff writer

Nearly three years to the day after he set foot on Fort Riley as the command sergeant major of the 3rd Brigade, 75th Division, Terry Young is packing for Fort Carson, Colo.

He will move from being the command sergeant major of the now reflagged 166th Aviation Brigade, 1st Army Division West, to being the top enlisted man for 1st Army Division West and Fort Carson, Colo.

The move will increase his responsibilities in numerous aspects, but Young said he is looking forward to having a greater impact on the training of Soldiers.

"I'll get to train a lot more Soldiers, see a lot more Soldiers, get to have a bigger impact on their training and readiness," Young said. "Hopefully I can impart some of the things I've learned over the years, make them better Soldiers and ultimately teach them to survive in combat."

Young, a 24-year Army veteran, will formally take over his new duties in late June. While his primary focus will be Fort Carson, he will travel to 1st Army West's other bases to assist in training missions.

"I hate to leave Fort Riley," Young said. "I love it here. The community has been outstanding. When I first came, there was the 24th Infantry Division. Now

there's the 'Big Red One.' Through all the transition, the community has always seemed to stay the same and have steadfast support for whoever's here."

Young is no stranger to training Soldiers. The past three years at Fort Riley have been spent helping lead the brigade in training aviation units to stand up and then deploy.

One of the largest missions came when the 166th Avn. Bde. spent five months assisting a Reserve Combat Aviation Brigade - the 36th CAB - to train for deployment overseas. The 166th has primarily focused on training smaller aviation and combat service support units.

"That was the first time it's ever been done, where a Reserve

aviation brigade mobilized and was sent to Iraq," Young said.

He noted that his time with the Reserve unit helped him see a different side of the Army. Young noted Reserve and National Guard units had different pay systems, deployment rules and promotion rules.

"Being active duty, I never saw that side of the Army," he said. "I've found that of most all of the Soldiers I've worked with — it doesn't matter if they're Reserve, National Guard or active duty — they all work just as hard as the others."

Young's replacement will be Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie Garrett, who will report to Fort Riley from Fort Richardson, Ala., in late July.



4th IBCT/Timmons

Patch me up

First Lt. Clifford Coy, the executive officer of Company D, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, and Omaha, Neb., native, puts a combat patch on one of his Soldiers during the "Black Lions" combat patch ceremony April 17 at Forward Operating Base Falcon.

OLSON'S SHOE SERVICE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 Boots looking worn

KPA
2 x 4"
Black Only
don't get scanned

THE PATHFINDER
2 x 3.5"
Black Only
2x3.5 Ride

KPA
2 x 4"
Black Only
Kirsham Michael

HOUSE FILL AD

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD-MANHATTA
2 x 4"
Black Only
2x1st Assem God 11/11 f

WHITEHALL FINE GIFTS
2 x 5.5"
Black Only
2x5.5 Penton Signing

Post, Army news briefly

Retirement orientation set

The semi-annual Pre-Retirement Orientation will be held from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 4 at Riley's Conference Center. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m.

This orientation is for individuals that have submitted their request for retirement. However, any Soldier contemplating retirement in the near future is welcome to attend. The purpose of the orientation is to receive information concerning rights, benefits and responsibilities in conjunction with retirement.

Soldiers that are eligible for early retirement (medical reasons only) should also attend. Spouses of retiring personnel and prospective retirees are invited and encouraged to attend.

This orientation is a requirement in accordance with AR 600-8-7 and Soldiers may attend as many times as they wish. Soldiers and spouses are invited to stay at Riley's Conference Center during the noon break to enjoy a complimentary lunch while visiting with local employers. A "meet and greet" social period for networking opportunities will immediately follow the orientation.

The "meet and greet" will include a cash bar, appetizers and door prizes. Soldiers can meet with major regional business leaders and employers to learn about career possibilities as they plan their transition from military to private life.

Soldiers and spouses are encouraged to bring their resume and contact cards to exchange.

For more information, contact the Retirement Services Office in Building 210 on Main Post or call 239-3320 or 239-3667.

CBRN course offered on post

Fort Riley offers a two-week CBRN Defense course each month to train personnel assigned to units' CBRN Control Party.

The Control Party consists of a CBRN Officer and CBRN NCO (an enlisted alternate if no CBRN NCO is assigned).

It's also an opportunity to earn five college credits from

Barton College.

These positions are inspected areas during command inspections. The class also provides training to unit 74D, CBRN NCOs (as long as they are not a BNCOOC grad).

Units can have multiple Soldiers trained for continuity.

The next post CBRN courses are scheduled for May 7 through 18 and June 18 through 29.

Prerequisites for the class are:

- A GT score of 100 or above (or ST of 95 or above).
- Rank of specialist or above (waiverable for private first class).
- A minimum of one year service remaining.

Units should call Jerald Busby, Troop Schools, at 239-5432 to register. For more information on the course, units also can call Michael Walter, Post Chemical, at 239-6395.

Discover Riley's treasures

Newcomers to Fort Riley, and those who wish to learn more about the post are invited to attend a post orientation May 4 or June 1 offered by Army Community Service's relocation staff. Participants will learn fun facts, interesting information and what the Fort Riley area has to offer. Orientations will be held the first Friday of every month. Contact ACS - Relocation at (785) 239-9435 or site2665@riley.army.mil to reserve a seat.

Speaking opportunity

Operation Tribute to Freedom is seeking Asian-American and Pacific Islander American Soldiers who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan to participate in Asian Pacific American Heritage Month speaking opportunities nationwide. The recognition month begins May 1, however, interested Soldiers should contact the Community Relations Office as soon as possible. Locations and dates TBD. Interested Soldiers should contact the Community Relations Office at 239-2022 or e-mail april.blackmon@riley.army.mil. Please include the Soldier's name, a brief deployment history and awards. Responses taken on an ongoing basis.

Economy

continued from page 1

of Soldiers who attend school at the post.

Construction/Contracts

Total construction impact at Fort Riley was \$371.2 million for fiscal year 2006. That number includes construction contracts awarded to Fort Riley (\$394.3 million) and the dollar value of construction contracts completed in fiscal year 2006 (\$79.7 million).

Fort Leavenworth's construction was significantly lower, with about \$43 million in ongoing construction reported.

Education

Communities surrounding Fort Riley receive impact from federal dollars funneled to schools impacted by students with military parents. For Geary County Unified School District 475, federal impact aid totaled \$10.6 million in fiscal year 2006.

During a February interview, Ron Walker, USD 475 superintendent, said that more than 50 percent of the district's students were military dependents.

"The very last thing a Soldier should have to worry about is the quality of education their child receives," Walker said. "Kansas can be very proud that our educational system is one of the best in the United States. We consistently rank in the top 10 of the best educational states in the country...There is a lot at stake such as quality education for students, providing military families with an excellent quality of life and welcoming new Family members to Kansas. There is also a very large economic impact other states would love to have."

Manhattan-Ogden USD 383, received \$210,475 in federal impact aid.

The Fort Riley area also saw significant impact from college tuition payments, from active

Fort Riley economic impact

Fort Riley economic impact for fiscal year 2006:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Payroll | \$775,410,978 |
| Supplies/Services/Contracts | \$114,572,836 |
| Construction | \$371,156,929 |
| Education | \$13,246,919 |
| Health Care | \$62,128,497 |
| Combined Federal Campaign (Local contributions) | \$7,164 |

Total Economic Impact \$1,336,523,323

Post population at Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth for fiscal year 2006:

| | Fort Riley | Fort Leavenworth |
|--------------------|------------|------------------|
| Military | 12,533 | 2,906 |
| Family members | 15,695 | 4,111 (on post) |
| Retirees | 19,928 | 19,072 |
| Civilian Employees | 8,346 | 699 |

duty military members, Reservists and their Families. That number was \$2.4 million.

Educational impact aid numbers for the Fort Leavenworth area were not included in the post's annual report.

Healthcare

Fort Riley saw \$62.1 million in hospital and veterinary expenses.

There was a combined federal campaign contribution of \$197,279 and there were direct contributions to Geary and Riley

counties of \$2,881 and \$4,283 respectively.

Healthcare numbers for Fort Leavenworth were not included in the report.

Size and Visitors

Fort Riley's reported military population in fiscal year 2006 was 12,533. The number of Family members was 15,695; along with 19,928 retirees supported by the post and 8,346 civilian workers.

Fort Riley has a total of 100,707 acres, more than 92,000 of which are training areas. The post has 1,820 buildings and 425 miles of roads - paved and unpaved - and rails.

Fort Leavenworth's post population is 2,906 military members, 4,111 Family members, and 2,166 civilian employees. The post has 1,133 students attending doctrine and war classes at the post's war college.

Fort Leavenworth also hosts many schools for command preparation classes per year, which draw several thousand additional students to Kansas annually.

The post is comprised of 5,634 acres and draws a total of 61,900 visitors annually. That number includes visitors to the museum (21,150), convention and visitors bureau guests that recorded visits to the post (900) and visitors to the Morale, Welfare and Recreation office (39,850).



Working dogs in Iraq

Sgt. Jason Ray, from Council, Va., a working dog handler with Forward Operating Base Falcon's K-9 unit in Baghdad, holds the leash to 'Doki', as the dog jumps through rubble while sniffing for explosives.

4th IBC/Smith

HOUSE FILL AD

EASTSIDE WESTSIDE MARKET
2 x 9"
Black Only
2x8Eastside

DAILY UNION
4 x 9"
Black Only
Graduation 2007

Commentary

Thursday, May 3, 2007

Fort Riley Post

Page 5

Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

Mother's Day is coming up May 13. What is the most important thing you learned from your mother?



"Always put others first."

Spc. Stan Oos
Infantry
1st Replacement Co.
Home: Nampa, Idaho



"The experience of traveling to America for the first time."

Tony Marshall
Concessionaire
Home: Huddersfield, England



"Being self-sufficient."

Staff Sgt. Keith Shorter
Food service
HHC, 3rd HBCT
Home: Columbus, Ga.



"How to treat others."

Capt. Sidney Howard
S-3
TT Class 18
Home: Mobile, Ala.



"Respect."

Capt. Rick Galeano
Intelligence officer
TT Class 18
Home: Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Letters to the editor:

The Post welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not contain any libelous statements or personal accusations. Letters accepted for publication must include the writer's full name and a phone number where he or she can be reached.

Letters may be edited to fit space but never edited to change the writer's viewpoint. Send letters to anna.morelock@onus.army.mil or fax them to 239-2592.

Letter to the Editor

Wife reacts to deployment extension

The reaction of many of my fellow Army wives and friends to the three-month deployment extension has been mixed. Many are sick to their stomachs with the Army. They feel the very real pain of having their husband and their children's father away for longer than expected. This is a burdensome sacrifice that we military families make on behalf of a far too often ungrateful America.

Some wives even point out the fact that when our husbands are stateside, they are still not home. This is indeed the truth. They are frequently in the field training and also are sent to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., for further training.

But you know what? This Army wife wouldn't want it any other way. Let me make the sacrifice. Our country, our future and yes our Families face a veritable and dire threat. The problem of terrorism and extremism that plotted and executed murderous plans on that September day will not simply vanish when our husbands come home. Wishful thinking and positive thoughts never won a war.

Make no mistake about it - this war will be fought to finality. Like it or not, our generation received the call. Will we pass the buck? Will we force our children's generation to confront the problems of which we grew weary?

This enemy is committed to murdering Americans. They hate us. They train their kids to hate us. If our troops come home prematurely, be advised - they will be followed. This war is currently being fought on foreign soil. The enemy has his hands full as he engages our men in this battle. Withdrawing is not the answer.

This war must be won. Our husbands must come home victorious. They are proud members of the best Army in the world. In my opinion, America has one Achilles heel, and that is her people. Her people are shortsighted and are forgetful of the lessons of the past. I'm afraid this sad fact may have devastating consequences.

We are strong and proud Army wives. Just as our husbands were called upon, so were we. Let us embrace this duty mentality that our husbands so proudly exemplify. Let us embrace the Army values that our husbands consistently live out. Let us sacrifice without complaining and lead the nation in supporting our Soldiers - and yes, in supporting their objective. The fight is not going away. We can shut our eyes and daydream about butterflies, but the daydream won't last long. The enemy is real. And he will continue to plot and kill.

Angela W. Rogers
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt. spouse

A Soldier's Perspective

Sergeant shares his view from the ground

By Sgt. Todd Selge
Army News Service

The following is a commentary by Sgt. Todd Selge of Company A, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division.

WASHINGTON - When you hear about the war in Iraq, you hear it from a high-level Army spokesperson or you hear it from "another deadly day" from the media. The view on the ground, from the Soldier's perspective, is often overlooked.

We are the ones who live the conflict every day, who see the progress day to day. We are the ones who experience the sorrows, deal face-to-face with the people and see the enemy's effort to undo every good thing the Iraqi people and coalition forces have done. What all Soldiers want is to succeed in the mission and go home to our Families. The things we do each day allow us to do just that.

The Soldiers make the many successes of the coalition possible. My unit, Company A, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), is no exception.

The most important success is getting the Iraqi security forces organized and capable of handling every problem that may arise in the future. Accomplishing this happens on all levels, from the commanders down to the average private.

Our Soldiers develop friendships with the Iraqi troops and police. We joke, eat, talk about family and conduct missions together. We provide a model for the ISF during the time we spend together.

We have a training program where Iraqi army soldiers come and learn the same basic tasks every U.S. Army Soldier knows. Every day Soldiers work hand-in-hand to teach the Iraqi army to succeed in securing their country.

The ISF have been the main effort. Our joint successes include finding countless caches, killing or capturing anti-Iraqi force personnel and thwarting attacks targeting coalition forces. The ISF continue to gain the confidence of their fellow countrymen.

We are also building important and long-lasting relationships

with the surrounding communities. We continuously visit schools and neighborhoods to give the kids backpacks full of supplies, hand out candy and listen to the concerns of the people.

We ask about their basic services such as food, water, electricity and fuel. We hand out cards with hotline numbers to address problems, and we share handshakes. We see the smiles of a hopeful generation firsthand and see the efforts of anti-Iraqi forces to shatter those dreams. Recent tactics by the insurgents are trying to break these bonds.

There has been a major effort by insurgents to sell and hand out a wide variety of realistic-looking toy guns. Their hope is for the ISF and coalition forces to

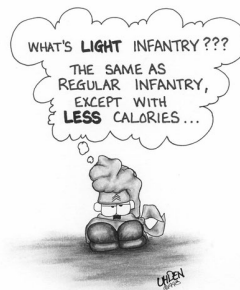
engage children. But with constant training and help from the communities, we will yet again foil the enemy's plans to promote chaos and hatred.

Every day we interact and help Iraq grow, we are one day closer to success and one day closer to seeing our Families.

What does the average Soldier think on a daily basis? He wants to accomplish the mission. He wants to see the smiles of the Iraqi people endure. He is grateful for everything he has back home, and he wishes the very same freedom he is fighting for, upon the country of Iraq.

This letter was sent as a letter to the editor of the Fort Lewis "Northwest Guardian."

Grunt By Wayne Udden



IACH sets dates for vaccines, physicals

IACH

The staff members of Irwin Army Community Hospital's primary care clinics are offering various times, dates and locations to accommodate over 2,000 appointments for school-age children to get vaccines and physicals.

The service is for Department of Defense beneficiary children who are participating in sports activities or enrolling in Fort Riley and local area schools. Children who need updated physicals or vaccinations for camps or other reasons may take advantage of this service. Several of the planned dates coincide with Fort Riley training holidays or Saturdays in hopes of easing the conflict of parental work schedules and appointment needs. Although these clinics will be offered from May through August, it is best beneficiaries use the service during the earliest published dates to avoid the last minute August rush. To receive vaccinations or a physical, children must be escorted by an adult, bring military identification and existing shot records, if available.

and existing shot records, if available.

...

Vaccinations and physicals will be provided at the following times, dates and locations:

8 a.m. to noon May 17 - Fort Riley Middle School
8 a.m. to noon May 22, 25 and 31 - Primary Care Clinic 1, IACH

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 18 - Primary Care Clinic 1, IACH
8 to 11:20 a.m. June 6, 14 and 22 - Primary Care Clinic 1, IACH

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 21 - Combined Troop Medical Clinic, Custer Hill
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 11, 17 and 26 - Primary Care Clinic 1, IACH

8 to 11:20 a.m. August 10 - Primary Care Clinic 1, IACH

Appointments for the Primary Care Clinic and CTMC can be made by calling IACH central appointments at 239-3627. The clinic at the Fort Riley Middle School is for middle school students, and appointments can be made at the school.

FORT RILEY POST

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Post, Army news briefly

ASAP offers training

The Fort Riley Army Substance Abuse Program conducts monthly classes for Soldiers in the rank of sergeant and above who have been selected by unit commanders to assist them as an ASAP subject matter expert.

Classes are scheduled May 23-24 and June 13-14.

The Unit Prevention Leader Certification Course has a rigorous two-day curriculum with a required final test to achieve UPL certification. The course will be taught from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each scheduled day at the Digital Training Facility in Building 7285.

For information on the Unit Prevention Leader Certification Course or to enroll Soldiers for the class, call Clyde Sallee, Fort Riley UPL training coordinator, at 239-1928 or 239-4151.

Prevention classes offered

The Fort Riley Suicide Prevention Program will conduct Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training classes monthly now through March.

Classes are scheduled May 17-18 and June 21-22. The two-day classes will be taught in the basement classroom at Riley's Conference Center from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.

For more information, call Charles Jackson, Fort Riley suicide prevention training coordinator, at the Family and Soldier Support Center, 239-9434 or 239-1012.

TRICARE COUNSELING
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Black Only
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LAKE-SIDE MARINE
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1x4 Lakeside May TP

Role players continued from page 1

voys and road marchers in attempts to slow them down so they can be attacked by trainers with the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

"We don't use any kind of explosive devices in doing our jobs," Wilson said. "That doesn't mean we're always the good guy though. Sometimes we just get in the way to slow the Soldiers down so they can be attacked by 1st Bde. trainers."

When that happens, it's chaos Wilson said and how the Soldiers react can save their lives in a real world situation. "That's why we're here, to train Soldiers, make them aware of what can happen and what to look for."

Wilson not only has role players outside the gate of the Camp Funston FOB, he has them at every urban cluster on the installation.

Wherever there's training for the day, we'll be there," Wilson said. "Realism is the key and when the Soldiers crash through the door of a home looking for

insurgents or walk through a peaceful village, we'll be there to greet them."

Ronnie Rainey is a retired sergeant first class and a role player for the last four months.

"We're here to keep the Soldiers guessing," Rainey said. "They never know what to expect when they drive by."

Rainey said sometimes he and his fellow role players will set out a new box or two along the road to see how the passing Soldiers react. They know anything is possible at anytime and should expect the worst at all times. "It's just our way of helping them be more aware of their surroundings," Rainey said.

"Most of the time though we just stand here and wave as they pass by," Rainey said. "It's not hard work, but we believe it's important work. We're helping to prepare them for wherever they're going and make sure we do everything we can so they come back alive."



Role players greet a convoy at Camp Funston.

1st Bde./Skidmore

Kansas Soldiers reach out to Iraqis with help from home

By Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma
1st Cav. Div. PAO

BAGHDAD — Although the Emerald City gates and a yellow brick road are nowhere to be found, these "Sunflower State" Soldiers are definitely not in Kansas anymore.

With family and friends back home wanting to help the cause and the Iraqi people needing so much help, one Topeka, Kan., Army National Guard unit stepped up to the plate and killed two birds with one stone with Operation Ruby Slippers.

"Operation Ruby Slippers is a result of being outside in the bat-

tle space and recognizing the humanitarian aid piece with the Iraqi people that isn't being provided right now," said Lt. Col. Kirk Pederson, a civil affairs officer with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 130th Field Artillery Brigade.

Pederson said taking his brigade commander out to the Civil Military Operations Center, a place where Iraqis can come get medical treatment and pick up some supplies, is what tipped the scales toward starting up the operation.

"It was that experience and that interaction with the Iraqi people and the children that made us say, 'We need to do something,'" said

the Shawnee, Kan., native.

From bandages to backpacks

The Soldiers asked for community members around Topeka to donate everything from over-the-counter medicines, tape, bandages, wraps — the essentials for the basic first aid kit — to clothing and school supplies.

The supplies will be delivered directly to the Iraqi people who need it most, Pederson added.

"Whether it's soccer balls, pencils, school supplies or doing a medical operation where we augmented with supplies given from

our Family and friends and neighbors from back home, it's all welcomed with open arms and sincerity by the local leaders that we get it to," Pederson said. "The local leaders can make sure the right people in their neighborhood get what they need."

A way to help

Contributions have been as big as providing the warehouse holding area for all the things being donated or as small as donating a pair of sneakers for an Iraqi child.

The collaboration of all the people, back home and here in the Iraqi capital, resulted in two tons worth of donations.

Pederson said he knows people, companies and corporations back home want to help. Whether it's during a hurricane disaster or tsunami, the American people are known for their generosity and compassion, he said.

"Through our (radio) drive, the first donation we got was an anonymous donor. He walked up to the disc jockey and rolled out five \$100 bills and said, 'This is for the Soldiers. I didn't know what to get, but take this money and go buy what they need for the Iraqi people,'" Pederson said.

Despite all the generosity, one challenge still stands in their way.

See Helping out, Page 8

Mine detectors combine radar, metal detection technology

By Anna Staatz
Staff writer

It was a time consuming process. Sgt. Christopher Haling, Company E, 2nd Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, swept his detector over the ground slowly. The high whistle meant there was metal. He swept back over the ground. The whistle continued, indicating metal beneath the surface. It could have been a bottle cap, and old can, a piece of wire. He kept going, waiting for the tell-tale radar beep that meant what lay beneath the surface was a mine and not just a piece of discarded trash.

Eleven members of the Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division recently spent a week training on new mine-detecting equipment. In a combat situation, the Soldiers could be asked to take their gear and ensure roads are safe to pass over or clear an area to be used as a refueling point for helicopters.

Haling, who is preparing for his fourth deployment overseas in nearly five years in the Army, said this was the first time he had trained in anything related to battlefield mines. He found 12 "mines" during his training sweep April 19.

"It's a good opportunity, though. It's always good to learn something new that might help you," he said.

Instructor Craig McNally said the detectors were also being used to detect improvised explosive devices and weapon caches in Iraq and Afghanistan, even though that wasn't the original intent of the detector's design. The one-week course gave the Soldiers the opportunity to learn about the equipment and the basics of using it.

"I tell students that this is like teaching you how to use your M-4," McNally, a 10-year Army veteran said. "We teach you how to load the weapon, we teach you how to point at the target and shoot at the target. We don't teach you how to clear buildings or conduct raids. That's a much larger picture. This, like a weapon, is just part of a larger picture."

The course included classroom work, group work in the field and solo training, culminating with written and practical tests. Soldiers need to get at least 80 percent to pass the written test and 100 percent on the field test.

"We have a pretty good pass rate," McNally said. "Usually on



Sgt. Christopher Haling, Company E, 2nd Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade, sweeps a lane for mines during training on April 19.

Tuesday, the students are very confused and they hate the system. Wednesday they're sort of getting it. Thursday they're pretty proficient. By Friday, they're knocking them out."

The mine detectors were first used following Sept. 11, 2001.

They combine a metal detecting system with ground-penetrating radar and are much more effective than the previous system. McNally said the old system could find about 70 percent of the mines, while the current one detects about 96 percent of mines.

"By being able to just find the mines and not the clutter, you're able to move more productively," he said. "In Afghanistan and Iraq, there's a lot of metal. So if you're trying to clear the road, you don't have time to dig up everything. You have to move as fast as a Humvee going in first gear."

Activation continued from page 1

"There's a lot of contractors. This opportunity has drawn a lot of contractors and companies in."

Stroman is from Overland Park, Kan., and took the job in part to help deploying brigades and in part to help his daughter, whose husband is currently deployed with the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. It allows him to be close to her and his grandchildren while their father is away. Stroman is a logistics manager for the 4th IBCT, helping manage the brigade's equipment left behind during its absence.

Memorial continued from page 1

North died while on patrol April 21 when he came under attack from enemy forces using an IED and small arms fire. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon and the Overseas Service Ribbon and the Combat Action Badge.

"Spec. North and Spec. Morales fought for freedom, provided freedom, defended freedom and died for freedom," said Maj. Christine Pacheco, 4th IBCT rear detachment commander. "As free people they chose to defend freedom and liberty."

Helping out continued from page 7

"We are having difficulty via the requirements of the Denton Amendment, getting an Iraqi custodian to accept the donations and acquire the customs approval in Iraq," Pederson said. Although many people have pulled together to get this humanitarian aid project rolling, it will cost an estimated \$20,000 to privately ship the rest of the donated items from Kansas to Iraq.

Pederson said he knew that getting donations - because they're National Guard, because they're military and because they're family - would be the easy part.

"Now," he said, "it's about getting it from Point A to Point B."

HOUSE FILL AD

HOUSE FILL AD

MILITARY OUTLET
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2x2Paintball Special

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2x3Wildcat03/01/f

KPA
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With a river festival

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2 x 4"
Black Only

LINE-X OF MANHATTAN
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Black Only
2x5 Post Only Line-x

Afghan soldiers, police train up

Soldiers partner with Afghans for transition team training

By Master Sgt. Jack Lee
1st Bde. PAO

About 70 Afghan National Army and Border Police personnel landed April 28 at Forbes Field in Topeka, Kan., to begin ten days of training at Fort Riley.

Maj. David Wood, "Devil" Brigade operations officer, said the Afghan forces will train directly with transition team Soldiers who soon will deploy to Afghanistan.

"The experience of working directly with Afghan personnel is a definite plus to training," Wood said. "This will give our TT Soldiers who are deploying to Afghanistan a first-hand look at their counterparts they will be advising."

The Soldier will train on counter-insurgency operations,

conducting raids, and cordon and search in urban areas. TT Soldiers also will be able to hone their understanding of Afghan culture.

Master Sgt. Ghulam Mahuddin, first sergeant for the Afghan Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 203rd Corps, said he is glad to be here. "We are here to share our experience and use their (American) experience."

"This will help us become successful against our enemies and help us rebuild our country," Mahuddin said, through a translator. Transition teams are trained to assist in that goal.

"We take our mission very seriously," Wood said. "Whatever innovation we can add to make the transition team Soldier more confident and better prepared, we will do."



1st Bde./Lee

Maj. Chris Campbell welcomes Capt. Mohammad Wali, from the Afghan National Army's 1st Bn., 2nd Bde., 203rd Corps, to Forbes Field in Topeka, Kan. Campbell, an embedded training team chief with a battalion-sized unit in Afghanistan, arrived at Fort Riley early to begin preparations for the Afghan Soldiers' visit.



Camp Funston shoppette opens

By Gary Skidmore
1st Brigade

A new shoppette opened in Building 1861D at Camp Funston May 2.

According to Stan Young, Fort Riley Army and Air Force Exchange Service general manager, the new shoppette will replace the temporary trailers currently being used.

"We wanted to offer Soldiers a permanent facility with a larger variety of items," Young said. "The trailer was great in a pinch but terrible in a permanent situation."

Young said the trailer system let in the cold in the winter and the heat in the summer.

"When the weather gets hot, the candy bars melt," Young said.

When the shoppette opens its doors May 2, customers not only will find a larger variety of items offered as far as food, drink and deployment accessories but also will find a computer room with six computers for those wishing to send e-mail. The shoppette also is wireless, Young said, for those who want to bring their laptops in and send e-mails home. Either way, according to Young, the facility is trying to meet the needs of the Soldiers housed there.

Additionally, the shoppette also offers DVDs for rent for those wishing to see the most current movies available.

"We're trying to offer our customers what they need," Young said. "We will do everything we can to take care of them."

Dixie Lehman gives Air Force Capt. Andrew Scott a haircut at the newly opened Camp Funston Barber Shop. According to Lehman, the barber shop is operational seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.

1st Bde./Skidmore

What's happening in your unit?

The Post wants to publicize interesting and informative articles about all organizations stationed at Fort Riley.

Call the editor at 239-8854. Let's talk.

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Environmental staff wins award for clean up

By Pfc. Andrea Merritt
1st Sust. Bde. PAO

The Fort Riley environmental staff was presented the Secretary of the Army Environmental Award for Environmental Restoration April 16 at the 1st Infantry Division Headquarters.

Fort Riley was one of six installations to receive a Secretary of the Army Environmental

Award, which honors the Army's top programs in historic preservation, waste reduction, pollution prevention and environmental clean up.

Geoffrey Prosch, the principal deputy assistant Secretary of the Army, presented the award to the staff for their hard work and innovative approaches to tackling the environmental issues on Fort Riley in fiscal year 2006.

One accomplishment included building a runway on a former landfill for use as the operational area for the Tactical Unmanned Aerial System, which is a remote-controlled aircraft used as a surveillance tool overseas.

The team worked closely with the Kansas Department of Health and Environmental Protection Agency in order to finish the project by the deadline, said Craig Phillips, chief of conservation and

restoration.

"These are good examples of sustaining the mission through land reuse and partnering with the community," Prosch said.

Other achievements included using a high-pressure injection system to treat groundwater contamination and placing injection equipment under railroad tracks so it wouldn't impact the bald eagle habitats, Prosch said.

"Beside Fort Riley's core team,

others played critical roles in cleaning up the environment," said John Shimp, a staff member of the Installation Restoration Program.

"Dr. Rick Van Saun, Corps of Engineers, made sure the environmental contracts were well written and executed. The various contractors, not only met their deadlines in turning out quality products, they contributed to finding the best way to accomplish the

job," Shimp said.

"The regulators, Mr. Amer Safadi with the Environmental Protection Agency and Mr. Travis Daneke with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, reviewed our work in a timely manner. If any one of these partners had not made positive contributions, Fort Riley's environmental cleanup program could easily have come to a standstill," Shimp concluded.



4th IBCT/Smith

Machine gun maintenance

Spec. Kyle Patterson, a member of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division's personal security detachment from Kirksville, Mo., performs weapon maintenance on an M2HB .50-caliber machine gun at Forward Operating Base Falcon.



4th IBCT/Smith

NFL meet-and-greet

Sgt. Ronald Hartford, an Iraqi security forces coordination cell team member with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division from Upton, Mass., shakes the hand of Israel Idonije, a lineman for the Chicago Bears, at a meet-and-greet at the Forward Operating Base Falcon dining facility April 12. Other National Football League players that were present were Nick Harper, cornerback for the Tennessee Titans, and Chris Harris, safety for the Chicago Bears.

Aviators receive FAA certification

By Sgt. Nicole Clarke
CAB PAO

Two Soldiers from Company F, 2nd Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, recently went through a six-month certification course to earn their Federal Aviation Administration certification.

Air traffic controllers Sgt. Omar Arteaga and Spc. Gabriel Gonzalez, finished their final tests April 26, earning their FAA certification.

The course is a requirement for all air traffic controllers in Iraq who will work in the joint air traffic control towers, said George Mummert, training supervisor for the FAA certification course.

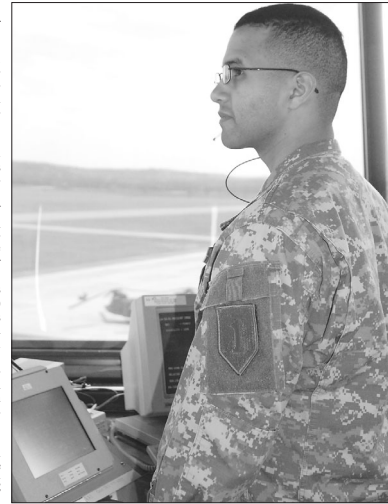
"We were the first two Soldiers (in the Combat Aviation Brigade) to be assigned to complete this course," Arteaga said. "This was a joint agreement between Marshall Army Airfield and Co. F."

During the six months of training the Soldiers went through a variety of scenarios ranging from conflicting air routes to instruction approaches, Arteaga said.

"During the six months we also learned how to work with civilian aircraft crossing over the airspace around Fort Riley and controlling five to 10 aircraft at a time," Arteaga said.

The air traffic controllers control 3.7 nautical miles of airspace around Fort Riley, Mummert said. After completing the classroom training, Arteaga and Gonzalez spent three weeks in that space receiving on-the-job training and learning more about the mission they will conduct while deployed.

"This is an opportunity to hone my skills and prepare for my mission down range," Arteaga said. "The training was priceless. I will



CAB/Clarke

Sgt. Omar Arteaga, Company F, 2nd Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment watches out for air traffic while listening through a headset at the Marshall Army Airfield control tower.

not be exposed to this again until I deploy. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity."

The Soldiers not only trained on communicating with aircraft but on administrative tasks as well, completing logs and keeping records of flights, Mummert said.

"This is a stepping stone. It helps me work with units and facilitate their training," Gonzalez said. "The training was good in the fact that I got a chance to talk to aircraft and do my real world job."

EEO to conduct mediation training

Equal Employment Office

The installation Equal Employment Office will conduct a mediation certification course May 21-25 at Riley's Conference Center.

Nominations for the 40-hour course are being accepted from qualified civilian employees interested in serving as mediators in a collateral duty capacity for the Army.

Army Regulation 690-600 and Management Directive 110 of the 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1614 require all federal agencies to establish an Alternative Dispute Resolution Program (ADR); a forum to resolve disputes at the earliest level. Media-

tion is the Army's preferred method of ADR.

Nominees should have excellent verbal and communication skills and be able to maintain calm, patience and objectivity in confrontational situations. Individuals nominated to attend this course will be representatives of the Army and should possess comprehension skills that can facilitate attempts at resolution of EEO complaints and workplace disputes. The process, when used at the earliest stage, restores working relationships and may serve as a preventative measure against future disputes, reduces costs incurred with the traditional administrative or adjudicative

processes and affords the use of resources for mission related programs and activities.

All nominees must complete the training request form, and the form must be signed by the respective supervisor. Forms can be picked up from the EEO Office, 211 Custer Ave. Organizations will be informed of approved selections before April 1.

There is no course fee. Trainees form the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) will conduct the training.

For more information on mediation training, contact L'Tanya Pugh, EEO director, at 239-2595 or ltanya.pugh@us.army.mil.

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Reserve battalion links up at Fort Riley

Alison Kohler
Community Relations

Since the Army Reserve companies that make up the 821st Transportation Battalion cannot train together each month, they meet at Fort Riley periodically. "Since we are spread out across the state, we have to get caught up. It's efficient. We plan for upcoming training and it gives the Soldiers a chance to mingle and get to know one another," said Lt. Col. Curt Slick, commander of 821st Trans. Bn.

About 450 Soldiers arrived on April 20 and set up a bivouac complete with a tactical operations center and tents for sleeping at Training Area 10. The Soldiers stayed through April 22 and conducted weapons qualification on M-16 rifles, M249 squad assault weapons and .50-caliber machine guns.

One .50-caliber gunner team qualified expert hitting nine out of nine targets.

"I'm the assistant gunner. I set the weapon to make it fire more accurate, load the (ammunition)," said Spc. Michael Williams, a native of Emporia, Kan., who serves with 369th Trans. Co. out of Wichita, Kan.

"He does all the work. I just pull the trigger," said Sgt. Aaron Wade, a Hutchinson, Kan., native with the 369th Trans. Co.

Both of the Soldiers deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004 to 2005, and said they attribute their success with the weapon to their experience in theater.

"I felt safer in Iraq. It's a big gun; nobody wants to mess with you," Williams said.

Soldiers tend to qualify and shoot more accurately when they are comfortable with the weapon, said Sgt. 1st Class Bradley Nelson, 129th Trans. Co. out of New Century, Kan.

The Soldiers who show an interest and volunteer are most likely to qualify on the weapons.

"We have the most experience," Wade said.

While deployed to Iraq, the Soldiers escorted and provided security for convoys with U.S. Soldiers and Iraqi contractors.

All of the units within the battalion have deployed at least once, and Slick said there is a strong likelihood they would deploy again within the next two years.

"It gets us more experience for what we do," Wade said.

The battalion plans to return to Fort Riley in August for weapons qualification and again in November for a battalion field training exercise, Slick said.

"We try to use Fort Riley as much as we can, because of its world-class (Multi Purpose Range Complex) and ranges," Slick said.



PAO/Kohler

Spc. Michael Williams and Sgt. Aaron Wade, both of the 369th Trans. Co. out of Wichita, Kan., finish conducting range qualification on the .50-caliber machine gun range April 21 on Fort Riley. The gunner team qualified expert hitting nine out of nine targets



PAO/Kohler

Spc. David Mauer, Sgt. Rocky Cauthon and Spc. Brandy Moravek all of the 129th Trans. Co. from Great Bend and Dodge City inspect an M249 squad assault weapon to determine if it is functioning properly at the M249 SAW range April 21 on Fort Riley.

Soldiers convicted by courts-martial

Staff Judge Advocate

Two Fort Riley Soldiers recently were convicted by courts-martial.

Pvt. Nicholas M. Wienczkowski was tried April 5 at a General Court-Martial where he was charged with multiple crimes including being absent without leave; disobeying a superior commissioned officer on two occasions; using cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamine, and amphetamine; distributing 5.3 grams of cocaine; and wrongfully introducing 5.3 grams of cocaine onto a military

installation. Wienczkowski pled guilty to one charge of disobeying his superior commissioned officer, one charge of distributing 5.3 grams of cocaine, and all of the drug use charges.

The military judge found him guilty of those crimes and sentenced him to be confined for 17 months, to forfeit all pay and allowances and to be discharged from the service with a Bad-Conduct Discharge.

...

Staff Sgt. Jamie Hill was tried April 18 at a General Court Martial where he was charged

with attempted carnal knowledge with a female between the ages of 12 and 16, attempted sodomy with a female between the ages of 12 and 16, and attempted indecent language to a female between the ages of 12 and 16. Hill pled not guilty to all charges and the military judge found him guilty of all charges except the attempted carnal knowledge.

The military judge sentenced Hill to be confined for four years, to be reduced to the grade of E1, to forfeit all pay and allowances and to be discharged from the service with a Bad-Conduct Discharge.

April retirees honored for service

Staff report

The following Soldiers and civilians were honored for their service in a retirement ceremony April 25 at Ware Parade Field:

Col. Robert O. Brunson, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

Col. Peter S. Goldberg, Aberdeen Proving Ground with duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

Master Sgt. Robert L. Walker, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Div.

Master Sgt. James P. Mitchell, HHC, 1st Inf. Div.

Sgt. 1st Class Eric K. Bundy, HHC, 1st Inf. Div.

Sgt. 1st Class Ronald A.

DICKINSON THEATRE
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Black Only
1x1.5.adchangeNOVTF11/17.1k

MANHATTAN SHOE REPAIR
1 x 2"
Black Only
1x2.Man Shoe May TF

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
1 x 3"
Black Only
1x1zhasefelowship1/03 t f

Nixon, HHC, 3rd Brigade
Sgt. 1st Class Calvin W. Vonda, HHC, 1 Inf. Div. Band
Sgt. 1st Class Leon Carmichael, HHC, 1st Inf. Div.
Sgt. 1st Class Thomas R. Black, HHC, 1st Inf. Div.
Sgt. 1st Class Rodney A. Beesley, HHC, 3rd Bde.
Staff Sgt. David W. Aldred, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment
Staff Sgt. Felix P. Shimkus,

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1 x 2.5"
Black Only
1x2.5 First Presbyterian May T

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE
1 x 5"
Black Only
1x5.american.4/8.6601.1k

HHC, 1st Inf. Div.
Staff Sgt. Rick A. Adame, HHC, 3rd Bde.
Jack Lucas, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security
Garry Gallant, Directorate of Public Works
Karen Brough, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center
Barry Sunstrom, Directorate of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation

KPA
1 x 8"
Black Only
upcoming events in kanasa

HOUSE FILL AD

Raith Ramthase
3 x 9"
Black Only



Iraqi police training center construction underway

By Pfc. Nathaniel Smith
4th IBCT, 1st Inf. Div. PAO

BAGHDAD – In an abandoned tree grove with a pair of deserted buildings, the face of the war on terrorism in this part of Iraq has begun to change.

The first steps in constructing an Iraqi security force Warrior Leaders' Compound took place April 9 in the Rashid district of southern Baghdad with range-clearing operations conducted by elements of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, the 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division's training team and the 47th Ordnance Company, 79th Ordnance Battalion.

Sgt. 1st Class Jason Briglin, the reconnaissance noncommissioned officer and brigade engineer for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th IBCT, said the facility is an important symbol of progress for the Iraqis.

"This mission's extremely

important because we're building a facility that will allow the Iraqi people to train their own protection forces," the Rochester, N.Y., native said, "which, in turn, means they will be able to take care of themselves."

"It's the first step towards that within the 'Dragon' (area of operations)."

That step took place with a loud bang as the tree grove and one of the buildings were demolished using roughly 400 pounds of explosives.

As with any demolition operation, there were safety concerns such as dangerous debris scattering into civilian areas.

To deal with this concern, explosives were placed in a way to cause the building to implode on itself. Outer and inner cordons were also established to prevent civilians from unknowingly wandering into the blast area.

With the first step safely completed, the team now can turn its eyes toward the next steps, removing more trees, using heavy

equipment to dig the range, pouring concrete, and constructing a secure berm.

In addition to the range, the facility will have a soccer field, a military operations in urban terrain practice area, traffic control lanes and entry control point lanes, all costing roughly \$1.8 million.

Contractors will be hired to construct the rest of the compound, but by using Army personnel to start construction, Sgt. 1st Class Michael Wright, the 4th IBCT's master gunner and non-commissioned officer-in-charge of the brigade's Iraqi security forces cell, estimated that as much as \$400,000 was saved.

All costs aside, Wright said, this construction is meaningful to Soldiers as well as the Iraqis.

"The only way that we are going to get to go home is if they start taking over the mission," he said. "This is a step in the right direction. This is one thing we have to do to get them into the mission."



4th IBCT/Smith

Sgt. 1st Class Jason Briglin, a reconnaissance noncommissioned officer, and Pfc. Jeffrey Johnson, a fire support specialist, survey the demolition site April 9 at the future National Police Warrior Leaders' Compound in southern Baghdad. On the first day of range-clearing, more than 400 pounds of explosives were used.

'Black Lion' women fill important role in support of combat unit

By 2nd Lt. Charles Wyatt
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.

A major factor in the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment "Black Lions" successes has come not from the infantrymen who constantly patrol the city but from the support of several female Soldiers from their forward support company, Company E, 610th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th IBCT.

Female Soldiers are not assigned to infantry battalions, but they do fill important assignments supporting combat units through forward support company assignments, in this case the

"Excalibur" Forward Support Company.

Several of Excalibur's female Soldiers have been strategically moved out from Forward Operating Base Falcon to the Black Lion Joint Security Station to assist the unit with any issues that arise there. Their primary responsibilities are to search female detainees and conduct battlefield tracking.

These Soldiers have performed their duties exceptionally, exceeding even the high standards the Black Lions had established for them.

On April 4, two of the female Soldiers, Pfc. Valerie Cree and Pvt. Juanita Garcia, were tasked with searching their first female

detainee. To avoid any problems with the Iraqi people, Soldiers of the same gender conduct searches of detainees to avoid even the appearance of impropriety. The female search team is quick on their feet when called upon.

Garcia, from Wasco, Calif., said, "I enjoy working with the Black Lions and assisting them in their missions."

Cree, from Tamarac, Fla., said she agreed.

"I love being attached to the Black Lion Battalion and being able to assist the infantry through female searches and performing the job of radio telephone operator," Cree said.

Only a handful of female Sol-

diers assist with the female detainees, but those who do have shown that they are always ready to accomplish their missions. They have transitioned from being cooks and truck drivers to

operating a tactical command post in Baghdad. They do everything from relaying information from Black Lion elements on the battlefield back to the tactical operating center, to tracking the positions of

Black Lion units patrolling the city.

Battlefield tracking is critical because it keeps the command post informed on the status of each unit within the battalion.

HOUSE FILL AD



2nd BCT, 82nd Abn. Div./Pryor

Training together

Above: Sgt. 1st Class Eldridge Jackson, a platoon sergeant with Btry. B, 2nd Bn., 319th Abn. FA Regt., 2nd BCT, 82nd Abn. Div., coaches an Iraqi soldier on proper firing positions during a four-day Iraqi Army Warrior Leader Course at Combat Outpost War Eagle in Baghdad's Adhamiyah district.

MAX MOTORS
3 x 10.5"
Black Only
YELLOW Community/Life

HOUSE FILL AD





Fort Riley Community Life

Thursday, May 3, 2007

Home of the Big Red One

Page 13

Community news briefly

Realtors offer home advice

Fort Riley's Housing Services Office has partnered with the Junction City Board of Realtors and the Manhattan Association of Realtors to provide Fort Riley Soldiers and their families with information regarding the home buying process.

This free, no obligation service offers information on the availability of homes for sale in the Fort Riley area. This Realtor presence at the Housing Services Office serves as an informational resource. They are here to assist you in the process of settling into your new surroundings quickly and efficiently.

Volunteers will be available to answer your questions and provide information on the following:

- Home Purchasing, Where and how do I start?
 - Mortgage Application Procedures
 - Current Interest Rates
 - Various loan types
 - The local housing market
- Stop in and visit the Housing Office from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Carr Hall, Building 45 on Main Post.

Children's theater auditions set

The Missoula Children's Theater is coming to Fort Riley to present "The Wiz." Auditions for the performance will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. June 11 at the Middle School Teen Center gym.

Roles are for students entering first through 12th grade. There are parts for 50 children and youth. There is no guarantee that everyone who auditions will be cast in the play. Rehearsals will be conducted daily from 9 to 11 a.m. and noon to 2:30 p.m. Not all cast members will be needed at every session.

The first rehearsal begins 30 minutes after auditions. Participation in the theater production is free. Performances are scheduled at 3 and 7 p.m. at the Middle School Teen Center Gym. For additional information, call 239-4723.

JCHS students score big

Three Junction City High School students placed in the top 117 Kansas students in the 2007 American Mathematics Contest. Some 1,684 students in 76 Kansas high schools took the 70-minute exam Feb. 21.

Of the 76 schools participating in the contest, JCHS placed 25th based on the top three scores of its students.

Michael Gross, a senior and son of Mike and Jeannie Gross of Junction City, placed 62nd; Shannon Grammel, a freshman and the daughter of Timothy and Tammy Grammel of Fort Riley, placed 76th; and Matthew Farver, a senior and the son of David and Sonia Farver of Fort Riley, placed 117th.

Gross placed in the top 5.9 percent of students entered in the contest nationally. Grammel placed in the top 7.1 percent, and Farver placed in the top 11.9 percent.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Family time



Mackenzie Nelson, 3, daughter of Spc. Tim Nelson, Co. L, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., receives instruction on a radio system from Sgt. 1st Class Jesse Lucarano, Co. C., 101st FSB. In make believe, Mackenzie was soon talking to her grandma over the airwaves.

'Devil' Brigade shows off Camp Funston

By Master Sgt. Jack Lee
1st Bde. PAO

The 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, emphasized the "fun" in Funston as the "Devil" Brigade Family Day was held in picture perfect weather at the former World War I training site.

"We had more than 250 Family members visit Forward Operating Base Army Strong," said Maj. David Wood, brigade operations officer. "It was our chance to show our loved ones where we spend so much of our time and give them a small sample of what we do."

The members of 1st Bde. provide over-

sight and training to prepare transition teams to embed with Iraqi or Afghan military or police to train, mentor and coach their counterparts.

Families saw the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer in action, hopped aboard a

See Family day, Page 15

K-State cadets compete, win at Bataan Death March

By Cpl. Tremeshia D. Ellis
19th PAD

MANHATTAN, Kan. - Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets from Kansas State University recently participated in the annual Bataan Memorial Death March, paying tribute to America's "greatest generation" and earning first place honors for their school.

The annual marathon challenge, at White Sands Missile Range near Alamogordo, N.M., started in 1989 and honors the American and Filipino prisoners of war who were forced to march 60 to 90 miles after their surrender to the Japanese on the Bataan Peninsula in the Philippine Islands during World War II.

After the Bataan Death March, only 54,000 of the 72,000 prisoners reached their destination. Though some of the prisoners escaped, approximately 5,000 to 10,000 Filipino and 600 to 650 American POWs died.

Honoring sacrifices

The marathon commemorates the sacrifices of the Bataan POWs with a 26.2-mile course through high desert terrain.

Fifteen K-State cadets and four cadre took part in the competition, which was conducted over spring break. The competition included thousands of civilians, ROTC cadets and active duty Soldiers.

K-State had three Army ROTC teams compete in the march in the categories of military heavy — military uniform with a 30-pound backpack; male military light; and co-ed military light. K-State cadets on the male military light team placed first in their category.

K-State's ROTC has participated in the event for the past three years, said Lt. Col. George Belin, head of Military Science at the university.

"It provides an opportunity for us to honor those veterans for their sacrifices," he said. "Though it's not the 65 to 100 miles they marched, it's a pretty good replication."

"The cadets learn a lot about themselves and what their personal limits are and about their buddies to their left and right," he added. "It's a real gut check."

Teamwork

Ultimately, Belin said, the cadets' success boiled down to effective teamwork.

"You're hurting. You know your buddy is hurting, but you continue to press on," he said. "It was a great experience and I'm glad to have done it."

In addition to the physical sacrifices made by the cadets, the department head said he was impressed with what he deemed personal sacrifices they made in order to participate in the memorial march.

"It's their spring break but instead of hanging out at the beaches like most college kids do, they are honoring veterans in this way," Belin said. "You couldn't ask for better young men and



K-State cadets compete in the Bataan Death March at White Sands Missile Range near Alamogordo, N.M.

Courtesy photo

women."

Two of the cadets who participated in this year's memorial march, Alexander Balk and Michael Weilbacher said they viewed their participation as an honor rather than a sacrifice.

"I like to challenge myself," Balk said. "It's a way to honor WWII veterans of Bataan, and it was a fun experience. Still you realize that what you're doing is nothing compared to what the POWs endured," he

said. "We all had our Camelbaks so we didn't go without water. We did have to carry a 35-pound ruck sack."

The benefits the future officers derived from the competition are innumerable, according to the K-State participants.

Fraternity competition

The cadets said confidence, patriotism and teamwork were all skills enhanced by the competi-

Blood drive scheduled at Riley's

By Stephanie Perrin
DMWR

Fort Riley's Spring Blood Drive will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 15 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 16 at Riley's Conference Center.

The blood donations received will go to support Kansas and residents of surrounding states, said Dori Farrow, chief of administration and operations for the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

"Everyone from Soldiers, civilians and the surrounding communities are invited and encouraged to donate blood," Farrow said. Sixteen-year-olds also are able to donate now with a completed parental consent form, she said.

The Fort Riley area blood bank is suffering from a shortage, Farrow said, and is only stocked with enough blood to supply the area for one to three days.

O-negative blood is the most needed because it is universal, she said.

"We believe the blood banks are low due to the recent bad weather that occurred during the previous blood drives," she said. "People didn't want to get out in the bad weather to donate blood."

Individuals interested in donating blood for the Fort Riley blood drive are encouraged to make an appointment by calling 1-800-Give-Life, but walk-ins will be accepted both days.

"A normal person could get in and out in an hour, especially if they had made an appointment," Farrow said. Individuals with appointments will have priority over walk-ins, she added.

"I think a lot of people don't donate because they don't know a lot about it or that they actually are saving lives," Farrow said.

For more information about Red Cross blood drives, visit www.bloodgiveslife.org or call 1-800-Give-Life.

See March, Page 14



Community news briefly

HASFR board to meet

The Historical and Archaeological Society of Fort Riley requests the pleasure of the company of all of its members to attend the annual HASFR board turn-over meeting. The meeting will be held at 11:30 a.m. May 9 at Quarters One on Barry Avenue.

HASFR members will bid farewell to old board members and get to know new board members. Light refreshments will be served. Some board positions are still available. Anyone interested in board positions, Fort Riley's history and historic event planning, can contact HASFR at hasfr.events@hotmail.com or 784-2552.

Hike 'n History walk scheduled

Learn interesting facts about Fort Riley's past during the Outdoor Recreation Center's 'Hike N History' walk scheduled for May 23.

The hike will begin at 9 a.m. at the Outdoor Recreation Center.

Registration is free and will be accepted until May 19.

Participants are asked to dress according to the weather. For more information or to register, call 239-2363.

SAS mother's day breakfast

Join School Age Services as they celebrate mothers, with a complimentary Mother's Day breakfast-to-go from 6:45 to 7:45 a.m. May 11. The Mother's Day breakfast-to-go is free and open to SAS parents.

For more information, call 239-9220 or 239-9225.

CFC funding boosts program quality at CYS

By Vicki Ohmacht

Child Development Center

The generosity of contributors to the Combined Federal Campaign has now extended to the children of Child and Youth Services. For the second year in CFC history, CYS has been listed as a charity. The Warren Road Child Development Center has received more than \$500 this fiscal year and recently bought a variety of new materials to encourage development, said Carole Hoffman, CDC Director.

"Resources are always limited, so any time a program is given extra money, it does allow us to buy additional materials that we may not be able to buy," Hoffman said. "It always adds an extra boost when we are able to have extra materials the staff can use to enhance the children's skills and development."

One parent noticed the improvement in materials in her daughter's preschool classroom. Amanda Beery's daughter, Angel, attends Module 9. Her older daughter, Allie, attended Module 9 three years ago.

"I think they have done such good upgrades. The difference is tremendous," Beery said. The Beery family also contributes to the CFC through her husband's work.

CFC info

The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual charity campaign in the workplace, according to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management Web site. More than 300 campaigns both nationally and internationally help raise millions of dollars each year. Pledges benefit thousands of non-profit organizations throughout the world. For more information on CFC, visit cfc@opm.gov.

"It's outstanding anytime the center can have more money for the kids, because it can only make the program better," she said. Community support is important to the program, Hoffman said.

The CFC is "a nice way for the community to have the choice and the option to donate to our military child care families, and it has been a true benefit for us to have that connection to the community," she said.

All of the CYS programs appreciate the donations, said Jana Helton, CYS coordinator.



Child and Youth Program Assistant Sonya Twitty shows Alexis LoRee (right) and Anastasia Brown (left) how pieces from program equipment purchased with Combined Federal Campaign funds fit together.

"I am very glad we are able to offer a method for CFC funds to be used right here in our own community," Helton said. "We would like to thank the communi-

ty for their generous donations for the benefit of the Fort Riley children and youth programs.

"It is wonderful to know that people realize the value of con-

tributing to quality programs and the positive impact these programs can have in meeting (children's) developmental needs," she said.

March

continued from page 13

grueling 26.2-mile course.

"My dad was in the Navy," Balk said. "We have a lot of pride in our respective services. It's a healthy rivalry. Still, I seemed to get a second wind whenever I saw a Navy unit approaching or passing us."

The team also said they had a healthy dose of pride in their program and their school.

"If we saw another ROTC unit or Big 12 school, that helped push us onward as well. We don't like being beaten," Balk said.

The competition was nothing new for Weilbacher, a fourth-year

march participant and fifth-year senior in architectural engineering.

Reminders

Still, Weilbacher, the captain of the first-place male military light team, said he was humbled by the presence of the Bataan survivors and disabled military veterans who attend the memorial march.

"When I think about the fact that the veterans went three times the distance on a dusty road with no food or water, I push myself a lot harder," he said.

"Just having those survivors out there...you gotta keep going," Belin said.

Team members agreed that the veterans were their biggest source of motivation.

"Wounded veterans on the sidelines gave us the gusto to continue on," Belin said. "I realized that if they can do it, we could do it as well."

In contrast to the fallen victims of the original march whose dead bodies littered the roadway on the Bataan peninsula, the Bataan survivors stood proudly on the sidelines offering silent motivation to

those who followed in their footsteps by accepting the call to serve their nation.

First place or last place, Balk and Weilbacher said, they plan to make the annual event a permanent part of their lives.

"It's not about coming in first. It's about honoring veterans. I'll always go down there," Weilbacher said.

"Still, the win made the trip complete," Weilbacher added. "It's good for the university and the ROTC program."

Balk said he encourages others to take part in the march to expe-

rience, at least in part, what the Bataan POWs went through.

Everyone should do it at least once," he said. "We should all take the opportunity to honor our veterans and American heroes whenever we get a chance."

Other cadets participating in the march included:

Matthew Cavanaugh, Eric Cook, Logan Foster, Jacy Schmidt, Brian Knight, Gary Kohlisch, Jerad Linder, Lora Marietta, Jonathan McCully, Chance Moyer, Jonathan Spikes, Benjamin Wilson and Adam Zerr.

NATIONAL VISION, INC.
3 x 10.5'
Black Only
3x10.5 National Vision

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE
3 x 10.5'
Black Only
3x10.5 Furniture Warehouse



Community news briefly

SKIES to hold dance recital

The SKIES Unlimited program will hold a dance recital beginning at 6:30 p.m. May 9 at Patton Hall on Main Post. For more information on the recital or SKIES Unlimited classes, call Shelley Anderson-Buckley at 239-4723.

Goddess getaway set

Ladies, mark your calendars to attend the first ever Goddess Getaway from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 12 at Riley's Conference Center.

This Mother's Day weekend let your inner Goddess shine with spa services at discounted prices.

Packages are available for manicures, pedicures, hair styling and much more. Lunch and complimentary snacks will be provided.

For more information, call 239-5614 or 784-1000.

Operation Purple Camp set

Operation Purple camps offer a free week of summer fun for military kids with parents who have been, are currently or will be deployed. This year more than 40 weeks of camps will be held at 34 locations in 26 states. Campers from all service branches will gather together to experience a memorable week of fun and adventure with a focus on learning coping skills to better deal with a parent's deployment.

For more information on Operation Purple camps or to download an application packet, visit the National Military Family Association Web site at www.nmfa.org.

Riley's offers Mother's brunch

Riley's Conference Center will be hosting a Mother's Day brunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 13. The menu includes assorted entrees, desserts and beverages.

The price for adults (age 16 and over) is \$15.95, children ages 6 through 15 are \$9.95 and children 5 and under are free.

Registrations will be accepted until May 4. Twenty walk-ins will be accepted the day of the brunch.

For more information or to register, call 784-1000.

SAS summer camp offered

Enrollment for Summer Camp through School Age Services will begin April 30 and continue until May 4 for current SAS youth.

Registration will begin May 7 for children not enrolled through SAS. All children wishing to participate in School Age Services' Summer Camp must be enrolled through Child and Youth Services and their yearly \$18 (up to \$40 maximum per family) registration fee paid.

Camp will begin May 29 and continue until August 10.

For more information or to register for Summer Camp, call 239-9220.

Auto center sets appreciation day

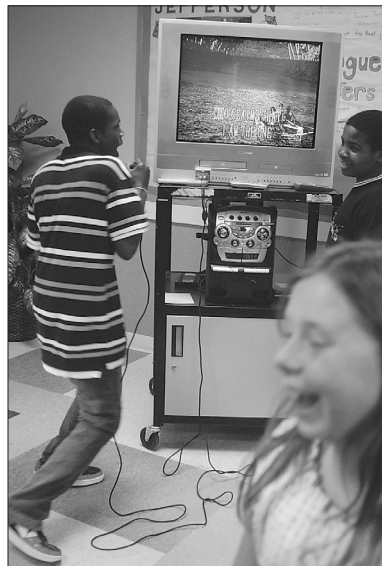
The Fort Riley Automotive Skills Center will thank their customers with a Customer Appreciation Day from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. May 18.

Complimentary food and beverages will be provided to participants with a valid shop and ID card.

For more information call 239-9764.

Post-wide yard sale scheduled

Fort Riley's post wide yard sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 5.



Stand-alone-head

Cameron Grigsby sings karaoke to Michael Jackson's "Billy Jean" at Fort Riley's School Age Services building. Cameron and other kids gathered at the center April 27 to wrap up the Month of the Military Child. Besides karaoke, attendees participated in video game tournaments, Lincoln-log building competitions, bowling, a hula hoop toss, book making, pool and air hockey.

PAO/Mitts

Homes wanted

Puppies, puppies, puppies

Lots of puppies are up for adoption at Fort Riley's stray facility. Shown here, a black lab and black and white lab/fox terrier mix represent two of the litters. The facility is full of puppies who need names and good homes before they get too big to remain at the facility.

Fort Riley Stray Facility
Building 226 Custer Ave., Main Post
Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.,
Monday through Friday
Phone: 239-6183



HOUSE FILL AD

JON MURDOCK AUTO MALL
2 x 8"
Black Only
2x8 Wk 5 split w/May

CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
3 x 10"
Black Only
3x10 CentralTexasCollege

Family day

continued from page 13

HUMVEE for a ride, got a weapon demonstration, toured combat lifesaving stations, a language lab and a foreign culture and weapons display.

Many of the Afghan and Iraqi translators also attended the event dressed in traditional dress. Greetings and short phrases of common use in Dari and Arabic languages had many children – and some adults – trying to learn a new language.

Hazil Sarky, a Kurdish woman who was born in Iraq and immigrated to the United States 11 years ago is employed on post as a translator. Hailing from San Diego, Calif., Sarky took a leave of absence from Aerospace Cooperation where she is a document controller to work as a translator.

Dressed in traditional Arab clothes called glabca, with a scarf

wrapped around her head, Sarky welcomed Family members and Soldiers to the cultural center. "I enjoyed meeting the Families of the Soldiers I work with," she said.

She served tea, and offered cookies and cake. "Many people who stopped by were interested in where I came from, what it was like. I was very happy to be here, talking to everyone," Sarky said. Here for two weeks only, she will be on her way home soon.

"Our next Family day will center around the rich, diverse culture 1st Bde. Soldiers experience on a daily basis," Wood said, referring to the interactions the Soldiers have with the more than 80 foreign language role players working and living at Camp Funston.



1st Bde./Lee

Command Sgt. Maj. Peter Burrowes greets Eba Benarji, a translator from San Diego, Calif. The hand to the heart adds a friendly and warm tone to the greeting.

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2FirstSouthern02/16tf



Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Page 16

Home of the Big Red One

Thursday, May 3, 2007

Sports news in brief

Fishing event scheduled

Disabled veterans, Soldiers and their family members from Fort Riley and surrounding communities are invited to the first Wheelin' N' Reelin' fishing event.

The fun will begin at 10 a.m. June 2 at Fort Riley's Moon Lake.

The facility will be handicapped accessible and fishing equipment will be provided. For more information, call 239-6398.

Baseball sign-up to begin

Registration for Start Smart Baseball will begin May 7 and continue until May 25 at Child and Youth Services, Central Enrollment and Registration, Bldg. 6620.

The registration fee is \$20 per child. All children wishing to participate in Start Smart Baseball must be enrolled through CVS and their yearly \$18 (up to \$40 maximum per family) registration fee paid.

Start Smart is an instructional program for youth between the ages of 3 and 4 and their parents. The program is designed to prepare children for organized team sports in a fun, non-stressful environment.

Start Smart Baseball will meet between June 4 and July 9. The program will be held Mondays from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. at the Middle School/Teen Center.

All players should wear comfortable clothing and tennis shoes. All other equipment will be provided.

For more information or to register, call 239-4847.

Youth soccer sign-ups begin

Help your child beat the heat this summer by signing them up for Youth Sports and Fitness indoor soccer league.

Registration will be from May 7 to 25 at Child and Youth Services, Central Enrollment and Registration, Bldg. 6620.

The league is for youth completing second through eighth grades and there is a \$20 registration fee per child with a maximum of \$40 per family.

All participants must have a sports physical form on file, dated on or after July 31, 2006, at the time of registration.

The league breakdown will be: Pinto, second and third grades; Mustang, fourth and fifth grades; and Bronco, sixth through eighth grades. Volunteer coaches also are needed.

For more information, call Youth Sports and Fitness at 239-9223.

Volleyball registration set

Registration will begin May 7 for two volleyball camps hosted by Youth Sports and Fitness for students entering grades five through eighth.

Volleyball camp for students entering grades five and six will be from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. August 6 through 10.

Youth in grades seven and eight will begin camp on August 6 and continue until August 10 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The registration fee is \$20 and students must be enrolled through Child and Youth Services to participate.

A sports physical dated on or after August 10, 2006 is required to register for the volleyball camps.

For more information, call Youth Sports and Fitness at 239-9223.

1st Bde. captain gets back in the ring

By Master Sgt. Jack Lee
1st Bde. PAO

A Fort Riley Soldier likes to throw down, not on the street, but in a boxing ring. Capt. Bertis T. "Mac Daddy" McMillan, 45, a 1st Brigade physician assistant and medical planner, has been boxing since he was 14, when his father was stationed in Germany.

"We had a German-American Week and they needed family

members to box. I joined the team and fought that week, and from then on I started boxing once a month on fight night," McMillan said.

McMillan boxed for the next 20 years, wherever he could. As a family member, he fought Golden Gloves in Kentucky and post tournaments at Fort Bragg, N.C. He kept boxing and as an amateur, his record is 30-2.

"The age limit for amateur boxing is 34, and I 'retired' from the ring," McMillan said.

Now, ten years later and stationed at Fort Riley, he attended a boxing match in Junction City and as he was watching said he thought, "I can do this!"

"So, I spoke to David 'Strictly Business' Medina, a local super middleweight, who by the way, is ranked No. 30 in the world. He needed a sparring partner, so I started sparring with him. He saw my skills and I got my foot in the door and started boxing again," McMillan said.

Now a professional boxer, his

age works for him. "Most of the guys I fight are 20 to 25 years younger than me. They see my age and underestimate me," he said.

"I inspire others to action," he said, admitting he is often portrayed as the underdog. "People like to see me win." One of those people is his wife, Kathy.

Kathy's been around boxing most of her life. Her dad enjoyed the sport and it rubbed off on her. "We talked about me being the cut man, but I wanted someone else to

do that," she said, wincing at the thought of the cuts, blood and pain. "I would rather be the manager and supportive wife."

"My wife is a licensed corner person in Kansas and attends my fights and sparring training. She's not my cut man, but an adviser," he said.

McMillan said Kathy is 100 percent involved and it's comforting to know she's there for him. "She's my sergeant major," he

See McMillan, Page 17

Youth hunt



Courtesy photo

Hunter takes 1st turkey

Capt. Don Reeves and his 9-year-old son Colton pose next to a large eastern wild turkey taken April 28 during the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group's Spring Youth Turkey Hunt. Colton shot the gobbler - his first - at 5 yards while being guided by DOIM's Tim Skelton, a volunteer with the group. Thirteen youths participated in the hunt this year, and two youths were successful.

On the Wildside: News About Nature

Coyotes persevere despite great odds

By Alan Hynek
Fish and Wildlife Biologist

The wily coyote has earned its reputation as the craftiest of wildlife. They have been shot at, poisoned, cussed and demonized. Yet this remarkable animal has not only survived an attempt at extermination, it has maintained its place as the most widespread of all the large predators in North America.

Coyotes are omnivorous, eating a wide variety of prey and some plant matter. Approximately 90 percent of their diet consists of mice, rats, rabbits, squirrels and carrion. Deer occasionally are consumed, but those are mostly sick or injured animals.

Coyotes have excellent hearing, sight and smell. In fact, the coyote's sense of hearing and smell are so keen that a sudden change in odor or noise can make it change its course mid-step. Its agility in this respect is incredible, perhaps unique to all wildlife.

Coyotes, as well as wolves, were treated as spiritual creatures by many Native American tribes. The coyote was respected and imitated for its cunning and versatility. European settlers found the coyote on the plains, prairies and deserts of central and western North America. They soon were regarded as a threat to livestock and considered a nuisance animal. Many states had a bounty on coyotes and some counties conducted organized hunts. Still the coyote persisted. Today, they are probably more adept at survival than at any time in their past.

Even though they are still a threat to livestock, wildlife dam-

age control is focused on individual coyotes rather than the entire population. It has been learned only a few out of the population are often the cause of most of the

See Coyotes, Page 17

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McMillan continued from page 16

joked.

"There are worse things a person can be doing," Kathy said. "I want to have a happy man at home."

Many Soldiers at each of his battalion aid stations will spar with him or ask his advice. "I will spar with anyone," said McMillan. He also will offer his coaching and mentoring about boxing.

"I think boxing boosts their self-esteem, keeps them fit...a good workout sport," he finished.

He's not paid much for his efforts, but he boxes not so much for the money as it keeps young. "When I step into the ring, and there's a 20-year-old that wants to knock my head off, I had better be in shape or they will carry me out," he admits.

As a professional, he owns a 0-1 record, but that doesn't concern him. "I am going to fight the guy again," he said, wanting to extract revenge. "I know there will be more matches."



Post/Name

Capt. Bertis McMillan, left, and Staff Sgt. Vernell Butler shadow spar during lunch recently at King Fitness Center. Both said boxing keeps them young.

Coyotes continued from page 16

damage. Also, coyotes play an important role in the balance of nature. Complete removal of this predator would have a significant impact on the small mammals and mesopredators such as raccoons and opossums.

Although conflicts occasionally arise, the coyote indeed has its rightful place. Many farmers now appreciate its value as a scavenger and a predator of rodents. The coyote's economic importance and its role in nature should be considered in any evaluation of the animal.

Over the years, the coyote has been coveted for its pelt. In the 1980s, it was not uncommon to fetch upwards

of \$100 on a well tanned fur. Today, the price per pelt averages \$10-\$20. Most coyote furs as well as other furs are shipped to Canada and countries overseas where wearing fur is much more common.

Coyotes are best known for their trademark howl. The coyote also can bark, growl, wail and squeal.

Although often silent in daytime, it may make itself heard at any time from sunset to sunrise and especially at dusk and dawn. Often times the howling of one triggers that of the others, resulting in an impressive concert. Two coyotes howling in unison can create the illusion of a dozen

or more.

The coyote's howling intrigues researchers. It appears to be a means of communication with other coyotes, although no one is really sure. One howl invariably brings a reply, and then a sort of commentary followed by another prolonged cry, and finally a volley of raucous yelpings.

Personally, I think the coyote is just letting us know it is there.

For more information on coyotes, contact the Conservation Office in Building 1020 at 239-6211 or visit the Web site at <http://www.riley.army.mil/Services/Fort/Environment/NatResources/>.

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Sports news briefly

Canoe, camping trip scheduled

Join Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation Center for their Canoe and Camping Trip May 25 and 26.

The trip will include canoeing on the Blue and Kansas Rivers with one night of camping under the stars.

The \$45 per person fee includes two meals, canoe, paddles and personal flotation devices.

Participants will leave from the Outdoor Recreation Center at 4 p.m. May 25.

For additional information contact the Outdoor Recreation Center at 239-2249.

Individuals must attend a pre-trip meeting at 4 p.m. May 21 to participate.

Lunchtime class offered at pool

Skip the burger and fries and join Fort Riley's aquatic staff for a "liquid lunch" every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This 45 minute high intensity class will boost cardiovascular endurance and strengthen and tone muscles.

All water fitness classes are \$2.50 per session or \$20 for 10 sessions with a punch card.

Call 239-9441 for more information or to order a punch card.

Classes will be instructed at Long Pool until renovations are complete at Eyster Pool.

Neighborhood nights set

Fort Riley's Youth Sports and Fitness will be hosting several Neighborhood Nights for communities on post.

The evenings will include games, door prizes, and fun and energetic sports designed for the entire family.

Neighborhood Nights will begin at 6 p.m. and continue until 7:30 p.m. each evening.

The following communities will have Neighborhood Nights on the below dates:

May 8 - McClellan Place
May 15 - Warner Heights.

For more information about upcoming Neighborhood Nights, contact Youth Sports and Fitness at 239-9223.

BOSS sets golf tourney

Gather your four-man team for the BOSS Rusty Club Golf Tournament May 25 at the Custer Hill Golf Course.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the entry fee is \$100 for a team of four.

Call 239-8147 for additional information.

Outdoor Rec offers trips

Enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Flint Hills by horseback. Three sessions will be provided. Transportation will be provided from the Outdoor Recreation Center to Sun Rock Ranch for an hour and a half of horseback riding across trails on the ranch.

The first two groups will leave from the Outdoor Recreation Center at 8:30 a.m. May 5 and the final session will leave at 1:30 p.m. The maximum is 5 riders per group.

The cost is \$25 per person and participants must register by May 3 and be at least 12 years of age.

Interested individuals can call the Outdoor Recreation Center at 239-2363.

Aquatic classes cancelled

Due to renovations at Eyster Pool, all Fort Riley aquatic fitness classes will be cancelled until the facility is available for use.

For more information, contact 239-9441.

GC tourney set at golf course

Bring your four-man team to Custer Hill Golf Course May 18

for the Garrison Commander's Spring Classic. The event will kick-off at 1:30 p.m. with a shotgun start. The \$40 per person fee includes green fees, cart rental and food.

The classic is open to the first 30 teams to register. Call the Custer Hill Golf Course at 784-6000 for additional information.

Registration open for classes

Registration is now open for Junior Golf and Gymnastics Summer Camps through SKIES Unlimited.

Junior Golf classes will be held at the Fort Riley golf course and will begin May 15. Lessons cost \$60 and will be divided into the following categories:

5:15-6 p.m., Tuesday - 6 to 10

year olds
5:15-6 p.m., Thursday - 11 to 18 year olds

Sessions run from May 15 to June 21, July 10 to August 16 and August 28 to October 4.

Gymnastics Summer Camp classes will be taught at Child and Youth Services, Building 6620 beginning in June.

Lessons cost \$45 for 3 to 6 year olds and \$55 for 7 to 15 year olds.

Sessions run from June 11 to 15, June 25 to 29, July 9 to 13 and July 23 to 27

Participants must be registered with CYS to enroll in classes.

Sports physicals are required to participate in gymnastics.

For more information, call 239-4723.

Swim for Life II

scheduled

Swim from Kaua'i island to Hawaii without ever leaving Fort Riley! All Department of Defense civilians on Fort Riley are encouraged to enroll in Swim 4 My Life II. The program is free and prizes will be given once individuals reach specified distances.

Participants' distances will be tracked by Fort Riley aquatic staff.

For additional information, or to enroll in the upcoming Swim 4 My Life program call 239-9441.

Lifeguard class set at pool

Individuals interested in becoming a certified lifeguard can enroll in Lifeguard Training at Fort Riley. Classes will be held May 11-14.

The training will be free for perspective Fort Riley Aquatic Lifeguards. Graduates will receive professional rescuer certifications.

Interested individuals can call 239-9441 for additional information or to enroll in the courses.

Outdoor rec rents shooting aid

The Outdoor Recreation Center, Building 9011 on Rifle Range Road, offers a Laser Shot Shooting Simulation System to help hunters improve their shooting. The system can be used for a rental fee of \$5 per person per hour or a group rate of \$15 per half hour or \$25 per hour.

Outdoor Rec is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call 239-2363.

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